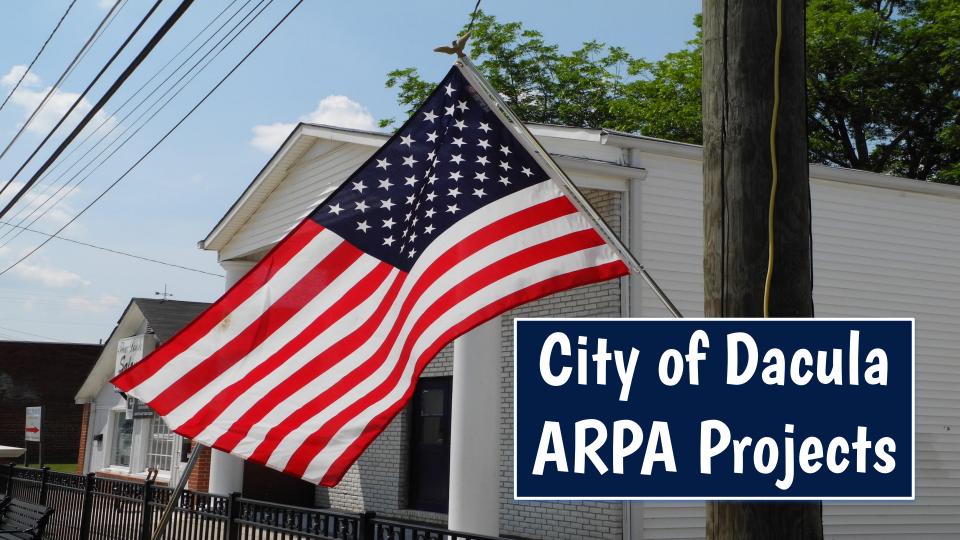
Maximizing ARPA Relief Funds to Improve Your City's Quality of Life

2022 GMA Annual Convention Concurrent Session

June 27, 2022





Considerations for the expenditures of ARPA funds.

- Priority How urgent is the need?
- Impact How many citizens will directly benefit from this project?
- Sustainability What ongoing expenses would be required to maintain it?

Broadband Access

The City partnered with MIS Solutions, Pivotel Networks and ACC Business to bring broadband to unserved areas in our community.

The two areas of focus were the City Park and City Maintenance Facility.

- AT&T agreed to run the broadband service for free
- A monthly fee of \$1200 would be necessary to maintain both locations
- Additional costs for installation and set up of broadband was under \$5000

Stormwater Mitigation

One particular area of the City, McMillan Road, experiences severe street flooding during periods of heavy rains.

- Current storm system is inadequate or no longer functional
- Initial staff estimate of correcting the issue is \$750,000
- An engineering analysis is currently underway to determine the best course of action to correct the problem



- Partnering with Gwinnett County sewer access was extended
- Initial estimate of sewer tie in is \$120,000
- An engineering design is underway to connect City Hall

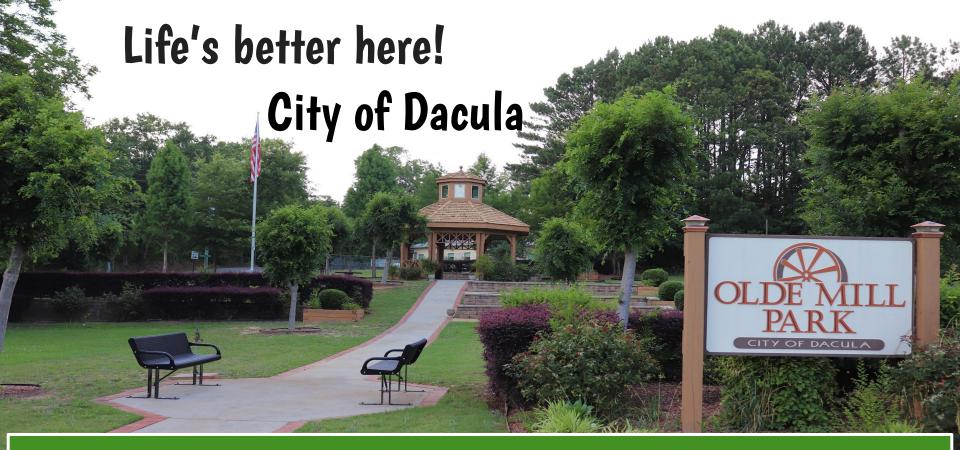
Premium Pay

The City of Dacula paid all essential staff who worked through the pandemic in 2020 a supplement of \$2,500.



This money was given to employees to cover the additional costs during the pandemic.

- Lost spousal earnings, Childcare, Medical care & Other accumulated expenses
- The City did not lose any employees due to an unwillingness to work during the worst part of the pandemic
- The City continued to provide services at an exceptional level without interruption



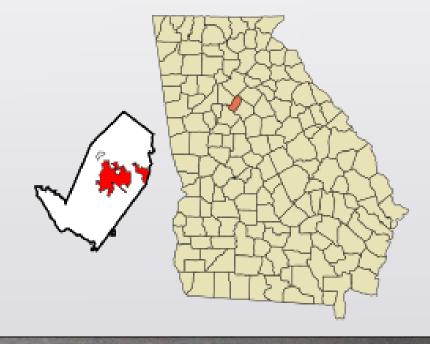
A special thanks to our great City staff and Council for their work on these projects!



CITY OF CONYERS American Rescue Plan Act

Estimated Population – 16,015

Isabel Rogers
Chief Financial Officer



Public Work Sessions



Conyers ARPA Projects

- Covid Vaccine Incentive for Employees
- Premium Pay for Essential Workers
- Mental Health Initiatives
- Broadband Expansion to Remote Areas
- Park Upgrades (Quality of Life)
- Stormwater Projects
- Public Safety Cameras
- Water & Sewer Upgrades
- Online Inspections Software
- Assistance to Residents and Small Businesses



Assistance to Residents

\$250,000 towards assisting residents affected by Covid-19

• \$1,000 each for a total of 250 residents

 To be eligible, a City resident must meet all the established residency, income and hardship requirements.

Awards are limited to one per household.

Assistance to Residents

- Certain individuals are not eligible. They include:
 - Individuals who work for a local, state, and federal government (including school boards).
 - 2. Elected officials.
 - 3. Immediate family members of a City of Conyers or Rockdale County employee who resides with the employee
 - 4. Individuals who have received any ARPA funds from Rockdale County, Georgia.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Residency Requirement: An individual must:
 - 1. Currently live within the city limits of the City of Conyers; AND
 - 2. Be a resident since May 1, 2021
- **Income Requirement:** Adjusted gross household income (AGI) of \$50,000 or less when considering household income and number of dependents.

 Hardship Requirement: An individual must have experienced a hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- Proof of Residency
- Proof of Income
- Proof of Hardship
- Valid proof of Identification

APPLICATIONS

- Residents instructed to submit their applications online via the city's website.
- Residents needing assistance are instructed to come to City Hall for assistance in their application.



APPLICATION PROCESS

- We created an online application using SeamlessDocs by GovOS
 - 1. https://conyers.seamlessdocs.com/f/resident_ARPA
 - 2. There are many other platforms such as Formsite, SignNow, DocuSign, etc. that can be used.

We created an internal ARPA special project team.

• Flow chart of the process.

Business Assistance

• \$250,000 towards assisting small businesses

• \$5,000 each for a total of 50 businesses



Business Assistance

- Certain businesses are not eligible. They include:
 - 1. Business owners who work for a local, state, and federal government (including school boards).
 - 2. Business owned by an elected official.
 - 3. Business who received any COVID-19 related relief funds
 - 4. Non-profit organizations.

ELIGIBLITY REQUIREMENTS

General Requirement:

- Must be a current City business owner for at least the previous 2 years, as of November 1, 2021
- Maximum of 25 employees



Specific Requirements:

Must have a revenue loss of at least 35% since March 1, 2020

DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Valid picture ID with application
- Completed W-9
- Copies of business licenses from 2019, 2020, and 2021
- Copies of 2019 & 2020 W-3 or Form 1096 to prove less than 25 employees or subcontractors
- Annual Profit and Loss (P&L) statement for 2019 & 2020
- Copies of 2019 & 2020 business tax return
- Copy of IRS transcripts for 2019 & 2020

APPLICATION PROCESS

 Business application must be submitted online via the City's website.

We created an online application using
 SeamlessDocs: https://conyers.seamlessdocs.com/f/ARPA_business

The flow chart process is very similar to the resident flowchart.



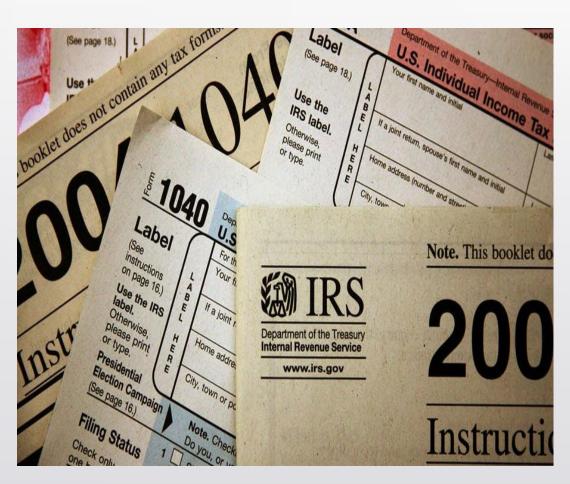
THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

REJECTED RESIDENT APPLICATIONS

- The majority of rejected applications are for those who do not live in the city limits.
- People don't understand that just because their mailing address is "Conyers, GA" it doesn't mean they live in the city limits.
- If you are a city, be prepared to explain and educate those applicants.



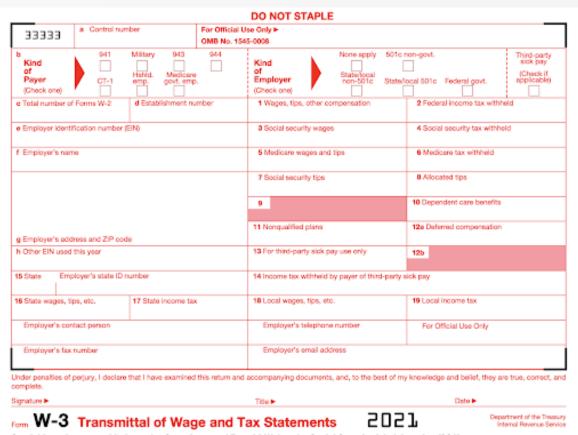
RESIDENTS WHO DON'T FILE A TAX RETURN



- Not everyone has to file a tax return, and whether you need to file depends on your age, filing status, income level, and the source of that income.
- If the resident is not required to file a tax return, simply get signed letter from the applicant stating he/she is not required to file a tax return.

BUSINESSES WITH NO EMPLOYEES OR SUBCONTRACTORS

 If a business applicant has no employees, have the applicant submit a letter stating they have no employees.



ADVERTISING

- Getting the word out is the most challenging.
- We used the city website, the local newspaper, social media, and a targeted email blast to businesses with less than 25 employees in our Planning Department's database.
- We distributed flyers throughout the community and at extended stay hotels in the city limits.
- We sent an e-newsletter and mailed a newsletter to all physical addresses in the city limits with notification of the ARPA fund availability to businesses and residents.

CITY OF LOUISVILLE, GEORGIA GEORGIA'S FIRST PERMANENT CAPITAL





#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE TESTIMONY



#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE PURPOSE

- Use ARPA funds to have long-term impact
- Help Citizens that really need it
- Reduce potential future blighted property

#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE FUNDING

- City Council by resolution approved \$125,000 of ARPA Funding
- Georgia Power Foundation donated \$25,000



#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE FOCUS

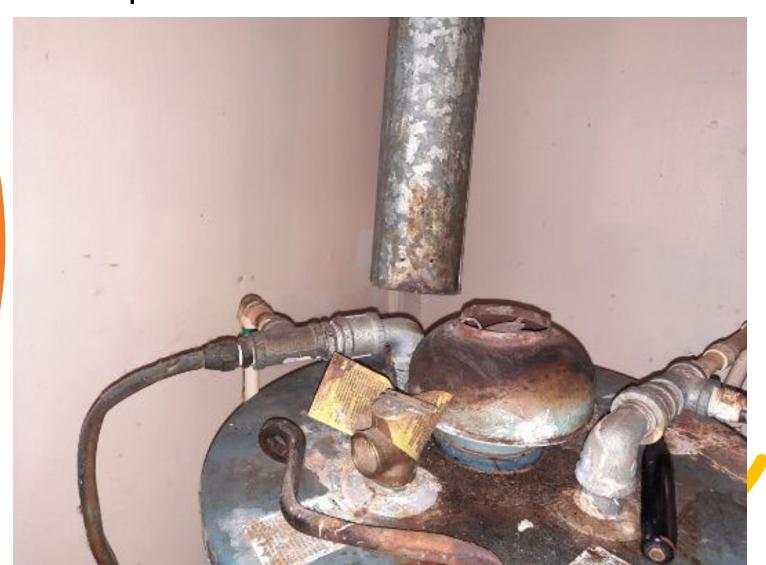
- Electrical System Hazards
- Plumbing Hazards
- Structural system failures (roof, foundation, porches...etc.)
- Quality of life (functioning bathrooms, kitchen...etc.)

#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE PROCESS

- Advertised
- Pre-app (establish income & ownership)
- Full application
- Hired Home Inspector to determine deficiencies & cost estimates (IMPORTANT)
- Establish housing committee to evaluate
- Finalize approved list

Why was the inspections important? One example

#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE
Things we found



#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE ELIGIBILITY

- Owner-occupied single-family home
- Clear deed in occupant's name
- Located within City Limits
- Eligible deficiencies
- Proof of insurance
- Current on taxes and Utilities
- Meet HUD income requirements

#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE FINAL LIST

- 21 applicants, 18 approved
- Final list of 15 (3 applicants passed away)
- 9 new roofs
- 4 new electrical service
- 3 partial electrical upgrade
- 3 porch repairs
- 8 floor replacement
- 4 foundation repairs
- 3 step/handrail repair
- 3 bathroom repairs
- 2 kitchen repairs

#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE CURRENT STATUS

- All roofs replaced
- All Electrical replacements complete
- 6 construction repairs complete
- 5 construction repairs not complete

#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE CHALLENGES

- Getting contractors to bid
- Price increases
- Supply availability
- Trimming the work list to fit budget

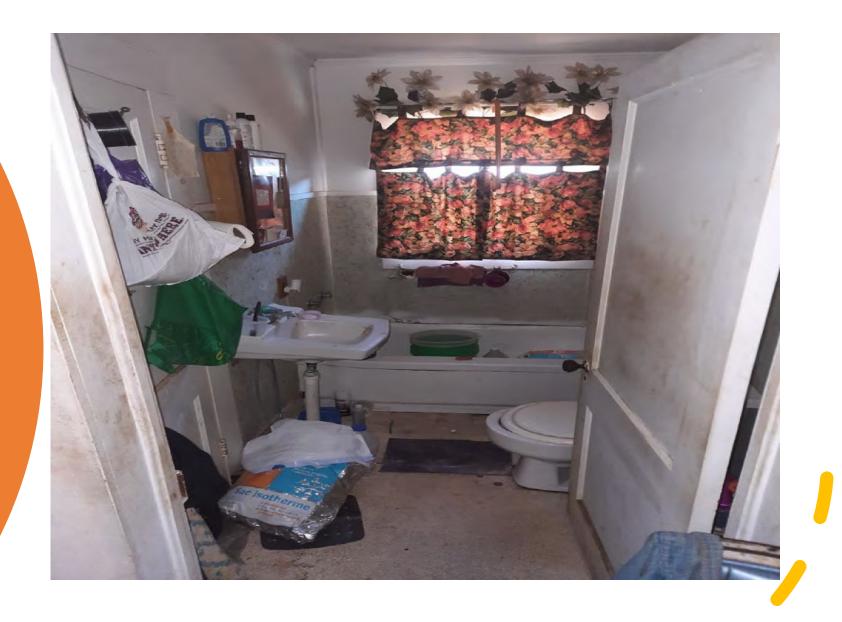
#BUILDINGUPLOUISVILLE WHAT'S NEXT

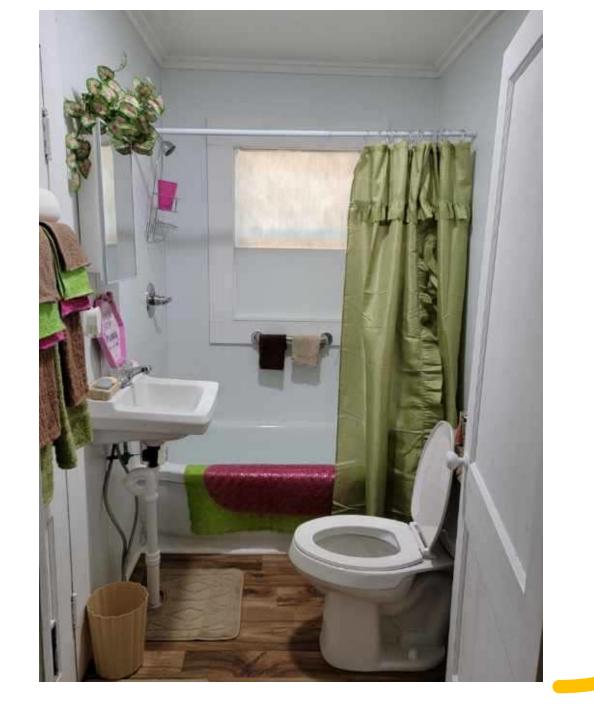
- Do another round with next tranche of ARPA Funds
- Focus on roofs
- Partnering with Churches, civic groups and nonprofits to do things like painting exterior

BEFORE & AFTER











AFTER





City of Tennille

Maximizing ARPA Relief Funds Water & Sewer Infrastructure

City of Tennille Location







Infrastructure



- Cut-off valves
- Fire Hydrants Replacement
- Water Meter Replacement Project
- ► Utility Software Update

Cut-off Valves









> Install 24 new cut-off valves





Fire Hydrants



➤ Identify and replace 18 fire hydrants







Water Meter Replacement



- City-wide water meter replacement program
- New utility software









Wastewater Treatment Plant



State Local Fiscal and Recovery Funds (\$11,981,897.69)



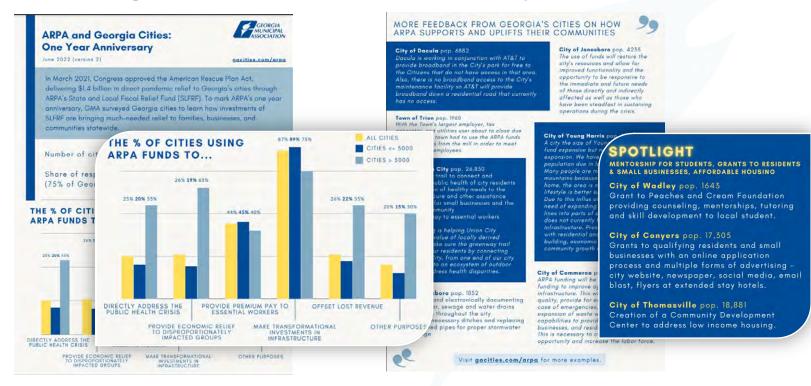






Thank You

ARPA and Georgia Cities: One Year Anniversary



Scan code to view report.



GMA ARPA Resource Round-Up

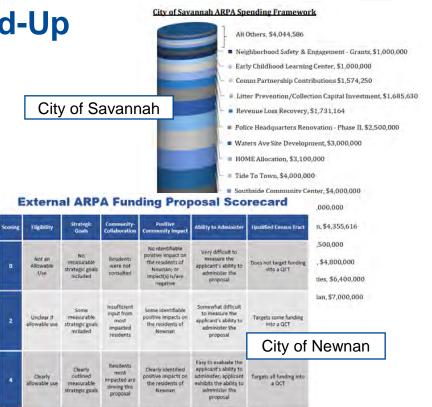
This page includes:

- One Year Anniversary report
- Series of "deep dive" articles zooming in on specific city projects (e.g. food insecurity in Winterville or affordable housing in Decatur)
- Other examples from around the state

GMA is constantly updating this resource page and wants to hear from you!

Scan code to view resources.





DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE ABOVE RUBRIC CAN BE FOUND IN APPENDIX B

Contact GMA

...and tell us how ARPA is creating transformative change in your community in response to the pandemic and its negative economic impacts.

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